TO: SBCC Stakeholders and Interested Parties

FROM: Ray Allshouse, Council Chair

DATE: October 6, 2014

The State Building Code Council (SBCC) strives to conduct an open and inclusive process in the review and adoption of the state building codes.   Over the past two code development cycles, since 2009, the process improvement effort has included meetings with stakeholders, open comment periods, and changes to our code development procedures such as opportunity for comment on all agenda items.

New developments in the area of 'Process Improvement' have been brought under the "LEAN Management" banner, which is being implemented throughout Washington State government offices. LEAN is a process that empowers employees to eliminate waste, resulting in increased efficiency, effectiveness and quality of government processes; it is focused on improved customer satisfaction.

The Council staff is working with our agency assigned "LEAN Consultant" to help bring about efficiencies and more dynamic processes in the arena of code review and development. Through this work we have developed several draft "problem statements" and determined that additional efforts should be made to seek and consider stakeholder input.

The Council will have the opportunity to review these draft statements, and will weigh in on their relevance as well as offer specific feedback to Council staff on what direction to take to resolve the issues. Staff will work with Council members to seek input from their constituent groups and interested parties to ensure that the process is inclusive of all the diverse voices of our stakeholders. Next, our LEAN consultants will help the SBCC identify and correct the root causes of the problems.

For now, if you have questions please address those to our [SBCC group mail in-box](). Your questions and our responses will be posted on the website as the process develops. When sending these e-mail comments, please use the term 'Process Improvement' in the subject line.

Thank you for your interest and participation in our code review and development process, and in our LEAN process improvement activities. We are committed to stakeholder satisfaction and efficiency in government.